

On Guard!

By Rev. Patrick J. Flynn

Sworn-crooner Frank "The Voice" Sinatra deserted Tin Pan Alley this week for a visit to the United Nations Security Council Meeting at Hunters College.

What was the political significance of the crooner's presence at the UN meeting? Well, it seems that "The Voice" is deeply interested in the United Nations Organization. He wants to know what the UN is going to do for "the kids."

This is a free country and as a citizen Sinatra has a right to talk politics or croon songs. But there is something odd about the crooner's sudden violence against the Spanish dictator. Why does "The Voice" speak out against Franco on the very day that the Moscow-controlled government of Poland calls upon the UN Security Council to take action against the Franco regime?

"The Voice" may be sincere in his attack on Franco but it is very surprising to hear him crowning the editorial propaganda of "The Daily Worker" instead of the songs of Tin Pan Alley.

Frank Sinatra, we believe, is a good American. His crowning of the Communist party line must come as a bit of a shock to his admirers. The role of Red agitator does not fit this boyish-looking hero of the bebop generation.

At the Communist Party Convention in New York last August one Red leader reportedly stated:

"Does all this mean that American Frank Sinatra has become a convert to Communism and is now following the Moscow gospel? Has 'The Voice' become leaving? Of course not. We do not believe this. But we do believe that the hobby-boy idol is gullible. Somebody, we think, is pushing Frankie around. One report that comes to us is that Sinatra's business agent is a left-wing follower. This left-wing agent, we are told, is pushing Frankie into these things. But Sinatra's real friends are worried about 'The Voice.' Reportedly they are making efforts to rescue him from those who would exploit his fame to further un-American activities.

The role of Red statesman does not suit Frank Sinatra. Pravda propaganda does not sound good when crooned to us by "The Voice." We sincerely hope that his friends are able to rescue him from his present surroundings. If Sinatra is as gullible as we think he is he will have Moscow propaganda to "The Daily Worker" and stick to crooning "Shoo Shoo Baby."

Last Week's ABC Paid Circulation 25,560 Eastern Edition 4,638 Sales Area 4,570 Total Printers & Circulation

THE CATHOLIC Courier Journal OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER OF THE ROCHESTER DIOCESE

Cardinal to Officiate At Benediction Here

Thomas Cardinal Tien who is coming to Rochester Saturday is pictured at a reception at the Chinese Embassy in Washington. He will officiate at the benediction of the Chinese Prince of the Church.

Cardinal Tien's biography on page 11.

Solemn Benediction in St. Joseph's Church for the children of Rochester's parochial schools will highlight a brief visit here Saturday by His Eminence Thomas Cardinal Tien, first Chinese Prince of the Church.

REDS CRUCIFIED THREE PRIESTS, WRITER CHARGES

Three Catholic priests were crucified by Russians during the occupation of Lithuania in 1941, an article in Osservatore Romano, Vatican City daily, charges.

The article, signed by Alex Richards, says that "three tall wooden crosses" were "hastily constructed by Russian soldiers" and that each cross "bore the dangling body of a Catholic priest whose only crime was that of his religion."

The priests were identified as the Rev. Justin Dabrila, widely known in Lithuania as first director of Catholic Action in that country and director of the production of religious and historical films portraying national Catholic characters; Vacovias Balsys, a young priest, and an elderly priest, Father Petrika.

The article also accuses the retreating Russians of "brutally murdering another dozen priests and carrying away 15 others who gave their lives for their Faith."

POPE STATES CATECHISM'S IMPORTANCE

Vatican City — (NC) — Spread of knowledge of the Catechism was urged by His Holiness Pope Pius XII Sunday as one of the remedies most urgently needed by a human society beset with serious evils on all sides.

The Sovereign Pontiff was speaking by radio in Spanish, to the closing ceremonies of a Catechetical Congress held in Barcelona, Spain, but his words held a lesson and admonition for all the world.

"If Jesus Christ and His Church are still really unknown to many, or being known are maliciously misrepresented," the Holy Father asked, "How is it possible for them, first to be loved, and then to be followed? And if God is unknown, and His love disregarded, how can we be shocked if history is marked by a succession of catastrophes?"

Asserting that the world is suffering from very sad evils but that "few are as transcendent as religious ignorance in all its forms," Pope Pius said "radical remedies are urgently needed in human society."

Addressing himself to the children of Spain who at that moment heard his voice, the Holy Father urged his doctrine, "the hope of the Church and of the country, to hurry and go to the Catechism."

"The Pope desires," the Holy Father said in conclusion, "that in the Catechism, you learn to place God at the very center of your lives, to know and love Jesus Christ, to live in His Grace and in the faithful observance of the commandments. He is good, to be obedient, to be studious, to be above all pious."

Italy's Jews Thank Pope

Rome — (NS) — The Vatican newspaper OSSERVATORE ROMANO has published a message of gratitude sent to Pope Pius by the Jewish community of Italy at conclusion of their first meeting since the country's liberation.

The message expressed the "ardent sense of gratitude" felt by all Jews for the "proof of human brotherhood" given them by the Catholic Church during the years of Nazi-Fascist persecution.

New U.S. Food Drive Set To Answer Pope's Appeal

Pontiff Rallies All Nations to Fight Famine

Vatican City — (NC) — Reminding that "the sinister shadow of famine rests on at least a quarter of the entire population of the globe," His Holiness Pope Pius XII today appealed to the conscience of the world to speed "prompt and sufficient action" to whatever need is making itself felt.

"May the conviction penetrate everywhere," the Holy Father exclaimed, "that the present threat of famine is a common danger, which should draw together all the peoples in brotherly solidarity and union such as leaves behind it all differences, all conflicts, all particular interests."

Even the forthcoming harvest will not definitely solve the food situation, His Holiness warned, unless we look far ahead, at least 15 months, during which the daily prayer which we send up to Our Father in Heaven even in times of peace, should be our daily bread.

Speeding "with our heart in the grip of deep anguish" the common Father said starvation threatens "to reap whole gulches" until it fatalities will make the constant and non-combatant deaths of World War II "almost insignificant."

Discovery of the fire was made almost simultaneously by Detective Captain Patrick J. Hartnett, who resides directly across the street and by Sisters of St. Joseph at the convent to the west.

2,000 Priests Died at Dachau

New York — (NC) — At least 2,000 priests, according to conservative estimates, died in the concentration camp of Dachau, the Vatican Radio declared in a broadcast monitored in this country by the Foreign Broadcast Intelligence Service of the U. S. War Department.

First U. S. Saint

Mother Frances Xavier Cabrini will be canonized as a saint of the Catholic Church at services expressed by Bernard Waldman, associate professor of physics at the University of Notre Dame, in an interview here.

Diocese to Focus In Giving Help To the Starving

SAVE THEM FROM STARVATION

These refugee children of Italy are typical of the millions who must be fed by America if they are to survive. It is the pope's plea in their behalf which the Archbishop and Bishop of the Rochester Diocese are answering with the forthcoming second food drive.

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\$35,000 Fire Closes Ithaca Grade School

Ithaca — A \$35,000 fire which swept immaculate Conception School here last Saturday sent more than 400 pupils off on an early Easter vacation.

Adjusting time began an estimate of the extent of the damage and costs could not be given until the scope of the work was estimated by Fire Chief Raymond B. Travis of the Ithaca Fire Department.

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Notre Dame A-Bomb Worker Opposes Sharing Secret

Notre Dame — (NC) — Opposition to passing out the atom bomb secret to all nations under present world conditions was expressed by Bernard Waldman, associate professor of physics at the University of Notre Dame, in an interview here.

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